

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, O.C. 20506

SECRET

January 20, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: NSC Review Group

In order for papers to be ready for the NSC meetings now scheduled, the Review Group must begin meeting promptly. I would, therefore, appreciate your designating your representative as soon as possible. The President has indicated his desire that you appoint your chief planner as your representative.

The first meeting of the Review Group will be held on Thursday, January 23, at 4:00 P. M. in the White House Situation Room. Attendance will be limited to members.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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January 20, 1969

National Security Decision Memorandum 1

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of the Treasury
The Administrator of the Agency for
International Development
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director of the US Information Agency
The Director of the Office of Emergency
Preparedness
The Director of the Bureau of the Budget

SUBJECT: Establishment of NSC Decision and Study Memoranda
Series

At the direction of the President, the following two memoranda series are hereby established to inform the Departments and Agencies of Presidential action:

- National Security Decision Memoranda (NSDM)
This series shall be used to report Presidential decisions (whether the result of NSC meetings or appropriate consultation with the Department head concerned).
- National Security Study Memoranda (NSSM)
This series shall be used to direct that studies be undertaken (normally for NSC consideration).

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The National Security Action Memoranda (NSAM) series is hereby abolished. An NSDM to be issued shortly will describe the status of existing NSAMs.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
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January 20, 1969

National Security Decision Memorandum 2

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director of the US Information Agency
The Director of the Office of Emergency
Preparedness

SUBJECT: Reorganization of the National Security Council System

To assist me in carrying out my responsibilities for the conduct of national security affairs, I hereby direct that the National Security Council system be reorganized as follows:

A. The National Security Council (NSC)

The functions, membership and responsibilities of the National Security Council shall be as set forth in the National Security Act of 1947, as amended.

The National Security Council shall be the principal forum for consideration of policy issues requiring Presidential determination. The nature of the issues to be considered may range from current crises and immediate operational problems to middle and long-range planning.

The Council shall meet regularly, and discussion will--except in unusual circumstances--be limited to agenda subjects. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, at my direction and in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, shall be responsible for determining the agenda and ensuring that the necessary

1/ The Director of Central Intelligence will brief the NSC on each agenda item prior to its consideration.*

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papers are prepared. Other members of the NSC may propose items for inclusion on the agenda. The Assistant to the President shall be assisted by a National Security Council Staff, as provided by law.

B. The National Security Council Review Group*

An NSC Review Group is hereby established to examine papers prior to their submission to the NSC. These papers may be received from NSC Interdepartmental Groups^{2/}, from NSC Ad Hoc Groups^{2/}, or from Departments (at their discretion).

The role of the Review Group shall be to review papers to be discussed by the NSC to assure that: 1) the issue under consideration is worthy of NSC attention; 2) all realistic alternatives are presented; 3) the facts, including cost implications, and all department and agency views are fairly and adequately set out. The Review Group shall also be empowered to assign action to the NSC Interdepartmental Groups or NSC Ad Hoc Groups, as appropriate.

The membership of the Review Group shall include:

- The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (Chairman);
- The representative of the Secretary of State; *Peterson*
- The representative of the Secretary of Defense;
- The representative* of the Director of Central Intelligence; *Jack Smith*
- The representative of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Depending on the issue under consideration, other agencies shall be represented at the discretion of the Chairman.

C. The National Security Council Under Secretaries Committee (307)

The NSC Under Secretaries Committee shall consider:

1. Issues which are referred to it by the NSC Review Group.

^{2/} Discussed below.

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2. Matters pertaining to interdepartmental activities of the US Government overseas:

- which are of an operational nature ^{3/} (in distinction to matters involving a substantial security policy question); and
- on which NSC Interdepartmental Groups have been unable to reach agreement, or which are of a broader nature than is suitable to any such group; and
- which do not require consideration at Presidential or NSC level; and
- which are then referred to it by the Secretary of State.

The results of NSC Under Secretaries Committee consideration of the matters listed in 2. above, will be submitted to the Secretary of State.

3. Other operational matters referred to it jointly by the Under Secretary of State and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

The membership of the Under Secretaries Committee shall include:

- The Under Secretary of State (Chairman); *Walter Anderson*
- The Deputy Secretary of Defense; *Parkes &*
- The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; *Kennedy*
- The Director of Central Intelligence; *Belmont*
- The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. *White*

Depending on the issue under consideration, other agencies shall be represented at the discretion of the Chairman.

^{3/} Determination shall be made jointly by the Secretary of State and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

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D. National Security Council Interdepartmental Groups

Existing Interdepartmental Regional Groups and the existing Political-Military Interdepartmental Group, chaired by the appropriate Assistant Secretary of State, are hereby reconstituted as part of the National Security Council structure. The Interdepartmental Groups shall perform the following functions: 1) discussion and decision on interdepartmental issues which can be settled at the Assistant Secretary level, including issues arising out of the implementation of NSC decisions; 2) preparation of policy papers for consideration by the NSC; 3) preparation of contingency papers on potential crisis areas for review by the NSC.

The membership of the interdepartmental regional groups shall include the agencies represented on the NSC Review Group. Depending on the issue under consideration, other agencies shall be represented at the discretion of the Chairman.

E. National Security Council Ad Hoc Groups

When appropriate, I intend to appoint NSC Ad Hoc Groups to deal with particular problems, including those which transcend regional boundaries.

* * * * *

The operational responsibility or authority of a Secretary over personnel from his Department serving on interdepartmental committees--including the authority to give necessary guidance to his representatives in the performance of interdepartmental group duties--is not limited by this NSDM. Nor does this NSDM limit the authority and responsibility of the Secretary of State for those interdepartmental matters assigned to him by NSDM 3.

Copies of reports of the interdepartmental groups shall be transmitted to the heads of Departments and Agencies simultaneously with their submission to the NSC Review Group.

NSAM 341 is hereby rescinded.



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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 20, 1959

National Security Decision Memorandum 3

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
The Administrator of the Agency for
International Development
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Director of the US Information Agency
The Director of the Office of Emergency
Preparedness

SUBJECT: The Direction, Coordination and Supervision of
Interdepartmental Activities Overseas

The Secretary of State is my principal foreign policy adviser. He is also responsible, in accordance with approved policy, for the execution of foreign policy. I have assigned to the Secretary of State authority and responsibility to the full extent permitted by law* for the overall direction, coordination and supervision of interdepartmental activities of the United States Government overseas. Such activities do not include those of United States military forces operating in the field where such forces are under the command of a United States area military commander, such other military activities as I elect as Commander-in-Chief to conduct through military channels, and activities which are internal to the execution and administration of the approved programs of a single department or agency and which are not of such a nature as to affect significantly the overall US overseas program in a country or region.

In discharging this authority and responsibility, the Secretary of State will be assisted by the NSC Interdepartmental Groups and the NSC Under Secretaries Committee, as constituted in NSDM 2 and in accordance with the procedures set forth therein.

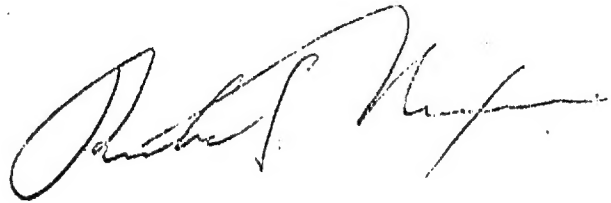
* Including continuous supervision and general direction of economic assistance, military assistance and sales programs, as provided in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1951, as amended.

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Within the purview of this NSDM, the Secretary of State may delegate full powers of decision to the Under Secretary of State, as Executive Chairman of the NSC Under Secretaries Committee, subject to the right of a member who does not concur to request the referral of a matter to the NSC Review Committee or to the NSC.



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THE WHITE HOUSE

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January 20, 1969

National Security Decision Memorandum 4

TO: The Vice President
 The Secretary of State
 The Secretary of the Treasury
 The Secretary of Defense
 The Secretary of Agriculture
 The Secretary of Commerce
 The Administrator of the Agency for
 International Development
 The Director of Central Intelligence
 The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
 The Director of the U.S. Information Agency
 The Director of the Bureau of the Budget
 The Director of the Office of Emergency
 Preparedness

SUBJECT: Program Analyses

The President has directed the preparation of a series of program analyses for designated countries and regions. These analyses will be used as the basis for National Security Council discussion and decision on policy and program issues and, where appropriate, will be related to existing programming activities.

These studies shall be performed under the supervision of a permanent program analysis staff under the National Security Council. The staff shall consist primarily of personnel on assignment from the relevant agencies and responsible to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. It shall work in close cooperation with similar staffs within the various departments and agencies and the Bureau of the Budget.

Each study shall be performed by an ad hoc group made up of
(1) personnel on temporary assignment from the relevant agencies; and
(2) members of the program analysis staff. The chairman of each group shall be appointed by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs in consultation with the Secretary of State. Studies will be made available to the departments concerned for their information and for comment prior to National Security Council consideration.

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